

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office correspondence is response to the applicant's after response filed on 07/29/2008.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 7-11, 17, and 19-28 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In interpreting the claims, in light of the Specification and the applicant's amendments filed on 08/29/2008, the Examiner finds the claimed invention to be patentably distinct from the prior art of record.
3. Clark et al (US patent 5778255) is concerned string a history buffer for containing an unencoded version of at least one previously encoded string, and storing an indicator that there exist at least two matches identified, and potential tokens corresponding to said at least two matches for a plurality of alternate encodings, identify matches between character strings in the string from said input data stream and character strings in the unencoded version of the at least one previously encoded string.
4. Winters et al (US patent 5532693) is concerned comparing a string from said input data stream with said unencoded version of at least one previously encoded string.
5. However the totality of each element and/or step in claims 7-11, 17, and 19-28 are not alluded to in the combined art of Clark and Winters. Their teachings either individually or in combination failed to teach or suggest the method recited in claim 7. More specifically, the combination of Clark and Winters does not teach or suggest "each

alternate encoding in the plurality of alternate encodings, summing lengths of the potential tokens in the alternate encoding to provide a total potential token length for the alternate encoding; comparing said total potential token lengths to determine a shortest total potential token length; selecting an encoding corresponding to the shortest total potential token length and generating encoding information representing said selected encoding" as recited in claim 7. Accordingly, claim 7, and 17 is allowable over the combination of Clark and Winters. So, Claims 7-11, 17, and 19-28 are allowable by virtue of their dependency upon claim 7, and 17 and also due to additional limitations recited in these claims. Therefore, for the foregoing reasons, examiner withdraws of the rejection of claims 7-11, 17, and 19-28 under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Clark in view of Winters.

7. However, the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest some of the steps of the present claim invention. Examiner performed an updated search and unable to find any prior art to disclose all the steps mentioned in the independent claims.

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

9. Claims 7-11, 17, and 19-28 are patentable.
10. Claims 1-6, 12-16, and 18 are cancelled.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad w. Reza whose telephone number is 571-272-6590. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:00-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, MOAZZAMI NASSER G can be reached on (571)272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Nasser G Moazzami/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2436

/Mohammad W Reza/

Examiner, Art Unit 2436